

# GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY

## CENTRE NEWS LETTER

SUMMER 1993

### PinkTriangleYouth

Being a young adult is difficult today. For young adults who are gay, lesbian, or bisexual, it's even more challenging.

Society's intolerance, misinformation, heterosexism, and unwillingness to learn and discuss sexuality has led to negative stereotypes about gays and lesbians. The Pink Triangle Youth Group (P-TYE) is for young adults aged 16-24, who are trying to or have accepted their sexuality. P-TYE is a safe place where everyone is welcome. There are new friends to meet and activities to enjoy. You can be yourself in a comfortable and confidential atmosphere away from the bar scene. P-TYE is a non-political and non-religious organization dedicated to the support of young gay, lesbian and bisexual adults.

Respect for an individual is the key to accepting one another. P-TYE provides a forum for honest communication, workshops, learning and social activities with open and accepting peers that can foster this respect.

P-TYE meets every Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Gay and Lesbian Community Centre or call 488-1574 for information.

## Volunteer Opportunity: Youth Group Facilitators

The Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton and Pink Triangle Youth of Edmonton are looking for two dynamic and energetic facilitators (one male and one female) for Edmonton's gay/lesbian and bisexual youth group.

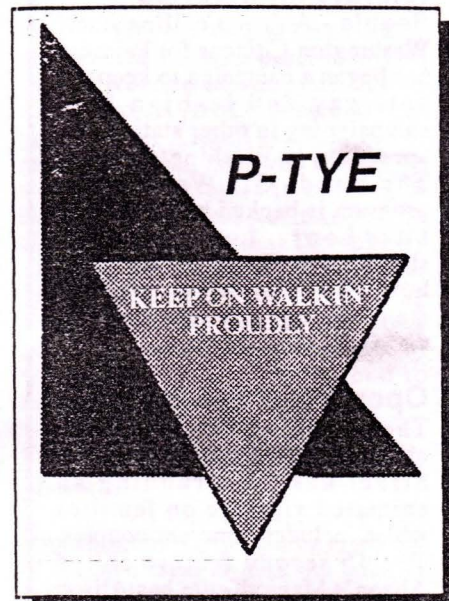
In these 12 month volunteer positions the facilitator will work in tandem with a co-facilitator and act as guide and mentor to the members of PTY-E. They will assist the youth in planning and administering this social/support service programme.

Consideration will be given to all applicants. A background or experience in Social work, Social Science, Human Services, and/or Education with an emphasis/experience in counselling and/or group facilitation skills would be a definite asset.

This person reports to the P-TYE Board Liaison to the Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton (GLCCE).

### Responsibilities:

1. Assess the needs of the membership and ensure those needs are met.
2. Support the youth of PTY-E as individuals and as a group.
3. Act as a positive role model.
4. Act as a liaison between the PTY-E Board Representative and the PTY-E membership.
5. Ensure all members are aware of and adhere to the Code of Ethics.
6. To work in tandem with their co-facilitator.
7. Attend PTY-E meetings and organized events on a regular basis.
8. Act as co-facilitator for the meetings ensuring that an outline of each meeting is recorded and attendance statistics are maintained.



9. To remain aware and updated on various gay organizations and groups in the city.

### Qualifications and Skills

1. Strong communication, listening and organizational skills.
2. An understanding of group dynamics.
3. Knowledge and comfort with all aspects of sexual activity.
4. Non-judgmental and unconditional positive regard.
5. A sense of humour.
6. Emotionally and mentally stable.
7. Experience working and facilitating young adults in a group setting.
8. Knowledge of psycho-social issues affecting homosexual, bisexual and heterosexual youth.

### Term of Responsibility:

1. Minimum of 12 months.
2. Quarterly reviews.

### Interested applicants

should forward a covering letter as well as a resume before August 30 1993 to:  
*Brent Allan P-TYE Liaison*  
c/o #201 11456 Jasper Ave.  
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 0M1  
(403) 488-5742



## ..its' News to Me!

### Washington will not tolerate intolerance

Seattle - A group calling itself Washington Citizens for Fairness has begun a campaign to keep the anti-gay and lesbian hate campaigning in other states from spreading to Washington state. The Hands Off Washington program is backed by Governor Mike Lowry. Lowry says in a statement on Hands Off literature how "We must drive a wooden stake through the ugly heart of discrimination."

### Open Sesame Street

The Canadian version of the children's TV program Sesame Street has been running an animated vignette on families which includes same-sex couples. The 45 second feature called Alison's Magic Kettle has Alison visit Cassia who lives with her Mom and mom's friend Maria, and visiting Ben who's Dad is shaving in the bathroom with friend Jim.

### Active(ist) Martina

Martina Navratilova, 37 year tennis marvel, spoke at the April rally in Washington D.C., has joined the American Civil Liberties Union lawsuit against the anti-gay-rights measure in Colorado, and has lent her name to the American National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's fundraising efforts. Currently Martina's likeness graces the Gay Games IV and Cultural Festivals pamphlet inviting people to attend the "Lesbian and Gay Tribute to Martina" a Games fundraiser in New York next June.

### k.d. update....

Whether you feel the abundance of k.d. lang in print lately is a good or irritating thing - there's more to come. On top of last year's biography, THE Vanity Fair article, and Rolling Stone's August 5 interview Random House Books of Canada is publishing an UNAUTHORIZED biography on Ms. lang by openly lesbian journalist Victoria Starr..

## Courting the Community: Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose raises funds

The mission of the New Royalist Society of Northern Alberta is to fund raise for charities and other organizations which either provide direct services to the gay and lesbian community of Edmonton or which work to promote a positive and accepting to gays and lesbian in the community as a whole.

The society maintains that female impersonation or "drag" as an entertainment vehicle provides an effective fund raising mechanism and gives a highly visible focal point to the activities of the society.

This year the Gay and Lesbian Community Centre is one of the beneficiaries of the generosity of the society, having already received large donations in July and August.

### Oldest Gay Organization in Edmonton

The New Royalist Social Society of Northern Alberta is one the oldest gay Organizations in the city It was incorporated 1975 as the Imperial Court of Wild Rose. In 1987 the society was reorganized and reincorporated as the New Royalist Social Society of Northern Alberta and has been in continuous operation from that time.

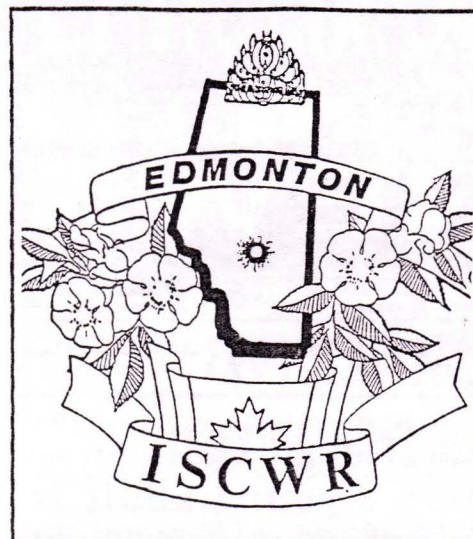
### Changing with the Gay and Lesbian community

The organization was formed to provide a social and entertainment outlet for the gay community in Edmonton at a time when such a service was not generally available. In recognition of the changing needs of the community, the growing awareness of the vulnerability of gays and lesbians to violence and legal discrimination and the AIDS crisis, the organization has become more vocal and outspoken in pursuing its goals. The society is more broad and inclusive than ever before.

Over the years the Society has raised funds for gay and lesbian and gay positive charities. Contributions have been made to the community at large in Edmonton as well. Win House, Christmas Bureau, AIDS Network, People Living With AIDS and the Feather of Hope Society have all received donations from the court.

### Scholarship Fund

The John M. Kerr Scholarship Fund, founded in 1984, is a prime example of the type of community service



that the Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose does. This fund provides financial assistance to gay and lesbian students who are pursuing post secondary education in the province of Alberta.

Applicants for assistance are reviewed once a year and funds are dispersed based upon the decision made by a special committee.

### Stars of Hope Fund

The Society 'sells' small and large Silver and Gold stars and commemorative pins to raise money for an AIDS related service organization. This fund was started in 1990 by Empress XIV Leah and Empress XV Twiggy. The stars are hung at the annual Coronation Ball, this years was August 7 at the Edmonton Convention centre.

### Citizen of the Year Award

The Society recognizes the achievements of other's who may or may not be involved in NRSSNA with the presentation of the annual John DeSmit Memorial Award for Citizen of the Year. This is presented to a person who has contributed freely to make the Gay and Lesbian community in the City of Edmonton a better place to live.

For more information on the society and help to further our goals please contact us  
The New Royalist Social Society of Northern Alberta  
Box 11394  
Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 3K6



## STRONG LIVES-STRONG COMMUNITIES

October 4-10 is National AIDS Awareness Week

AIDS Awareness week has been a national event for the past two years. Over one hundred agencies participated in last years events which included WALK FOR LIFE walk-a-thon, Candlelight Walk, Interfaith Services, films, and multi-disciplinary art exhibitions.

The Gay and Lesbian Community centre and Gay Mens Outreach Crew will be showing videos at the community centre throughout the week. GLCCE members who are interested in organizing and/or volunteering for this or other events at the community centre during AIDS Awareness Week please leave a phone message or note for Candice Hood at GLCCE, #104 11745 Jasper Ave. (403) 488-3234.

# AIDS AWARENESS WEEK 1993

OCTOBER 4-10

## Project Aries for gay and bisexual men

If you sometimes have unprotected sex with other men, and you're worried about your risk of AIDS, Project ARIES is here to help you. Project ARIES is available to gay and bisexual men who would like to talk to counselors in helping to have less fear, less guilt and more closeness when it comes to sex. By offering support over the phone, Project ARIES makes counselling more accessible to men who seek person-to-person support because of where they live or their need to remain anonymous.

### Free, anonymous counselling by phone

With the help of teleconferencing technology, groups of six men from around the country call a toll-free number to connect with two counselors for a ninety minute session, once a week for fourteen weeks. Because the number is toll-free, no calls ever show up on your phone bill. The time together is spent looking at the things that make safer sex difficult, trying out strategies to use in tough situations, and finally, looking at what kinds of support may help maintain safer behaviours once the group has ended.

Project Aries has been involved in AIDS research since 1986 including a telephone counselling project funded by the King County department of Public Health (Washington State) and two projects funded by the National Institute of mental Health (NIMH). With current NIHM funds, ARIES is offering this free group telephone counselling to **men in Alberta** about safer sex and help for getting support in making these changes.

### For more information

Please call this toll-free number (1-800-999-7511) and talk with one of the initial Call Staff. Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For other Project ARIES information contact Brent Allan, Gay Mens Outreach Crew Program Coordinator at (403) 488-5742 in Edmonton.

## WALK FOR LIFE is Oct. 3

Walk For Life takes place October 3, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Rundle Park.

Walk For Life had a terrific start last year with over 600 registered walkers. The number is expected to double this year, thanks in part to the enthusiasm of many returning participants. Form a team with friends or co-workers! The more teams taking part, the greater the challenge to other businesses and groups to participate in the event.

### Registration fee

Registration fee is \$20 per person before September 22, \$25 per person after September 22. There is no limit to the number of persons per team.

#### Each walker receives :

- a professionally designed T-Shirt
- a free meal and snacks along the route
- fabulous live entertainment



**WALK FOR LIFE**

YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

Walkers can win top 5 team challenge awards and novelty awards. Individual "level prizes" based on the amount of pledges received are also awarded. Last year's prizes included sweatshirts, rollerblades, walk-mans, cordless phones, Oiler Tickets, Princess Theatre memberships and weekend getaways.

### Money and the message of AIDS prevention

The Walk For Life raises money for three local AIDS organizations, AIDS Network of Edmonton Society; Edmonton Persons Living with HIV Society and Feather of Hope Aboriginal AIDS Prevention Society. Equally important to raising money is the AIDS prevention message we are delivering. AIDS is an entirely preventable disease, yet it continues to strike alarming numbers of people.

### For Information call:

**The WALK FOR LIFE Hotline (403) 488-5742.**



## Attention writers: Get Booked

### Two Spirited People of the First Nations

Two Spirited People of the First Nations: and Queer Press are producing an anthology of writing, poetry, autobiography, essays, political commentary, artworks, plays and other forms of creative work. Call (416) 978-1078 and leave a message.

### Defining Virginity

How do you define virginity? Three women writers are compiling a book of women's stories on the subject of virginity. They are seeking personal narratives on the event of "losing" virginity. In the context of a mainstream culture that uses a medical, heterosexual definition (virginity = hymen/loss of virginity = penetration) to determine female roles, we feel it is important that women appropriate this concept to suit their own sexual and social needs. The basis for each women's story and experience is a self-defined understanding of "virginity."

If interested Write: Virginity 101 - 1184 Denman Street, #351, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6G 2M9.

### Sober Dykes

The Next Step, the ten year later follow-up to the book to Out From Under - Sober Dykes and Our Friends is now being compiled by Jean Swallow.

Swallow is looking for submissions that have recovery towards wholeness as the starting reference point, circles through specific pain and comes back to wholeness as the inevitable goal. Submissions in any style will be accepted: Journals, letters, fiction, autobiography, poetry, interviews, dialogues, theory, non-fiction, narratives, diaries, tapes, songs, speeches, graphics, paintings or photography. An rigorously honest recovery story coming out of lesbian lives will be considered.

Do not send original artwork. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope to have articles returned. Deadline is November 1, 1993.

Send to: The Next Step, 2404 California Street #27, San Francisco, CA 94115

**Womon to Womon Books** is selling books at Boystown Cafe 101 Ave and 124 St. on the third Thursday of every month, 8 - 10 p.m. call 454-8031.

## Events & Announcements

### Team Edmonton Gay and Lesbian Sports Association:

is organizing a team to attend the Gay Games IV and Cultural Festival in New York. Anyone interested in joining the team, going to New York or helping to raise funds for Team Edmonton can attend the monthly meetings at the Gay and Lesbian Community Centre. Next meeting is **Sunday, August 29, 7 p.m.** at GLCCE #104, 11745 Jasper Avenue. For information call Gil at 477-3304.

**GMOC Video Night:** Gay Men's Outreach Crew video night at GLCCE resumes **Thursday, September 2 at 7:30 p.m.** with the video "On Being Gay" by Brian McNaught. Be there at GLCCE #104 11745 Jasper Ave. FREE POPCORN!

**Pink Triangle Youth:** P-TYE meets every **Saturday** at GLCCE from 8 - 10 p.m.

**GLCCE Coming- Out Group For Women** starts **September 12** at 7:30 p.m. This discussion group, assisted by a peer

counsellor, will deal with issues that face women who are coming out.

**Lynn Lavner, Comic -Songwriter - Singer** appears at The Garneau Theatre **Friday, September 17** at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Lavner presents a polished cabaret act of original songs and comedy at the piano with a special outreach to lesbian/gay, feminist, and Jewish audiences.

**Womonspace Dance:** After a summer break the regular schedule for Womonspace dances resumes. The next dance is **September 18, 8 p.m. - 1 p.m.** at Bonnie Doon Hall, 9240 93 St. For women only, admittance is \$8, \$5 with a Womonspace membership card.

**Host and Peer Counselor** training courses will be available soon at GLCCE to enable members to volunteer in these positions. Call GLCCE at 488-3234 and leave your name and number for Rick.M.

**Dart Club:** Want to play darts? To join the dart-hurling queers call Ray at 421-4427 or Snake at 428-8847. Bullseye!

## GLCCE Newsletter

is compiled and distributed by the Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton to its members at least 10 times a year. The newsletter is an information source for events at the community centre as well as events in the LesBiGay community of Edmonton. We accept announcements, articles and press releases relevant to the LesBiGay community. We will edit for space and content. **Deadline for the next issue is September 10.** Submit articles at GLCCE #104 11745 Jasper Ave. 7-10 p.m. Monday - Friday.

## Want To Join Us?

- ▼ nightly coffeehouse drop-ins 7 - 10 pm weeknights ☐
- ▼ community information line:
- ▼ support services (confidential counselling, workshops)
- ▼ information about the lesbian and gay community in Edmonton (groups, activities, etc.)
- ▼ newsletter (mailed discretely)
- ▼ bulletin boards and referral service
- ▼ use of our lesbian / gay library, resource centre, archives, and meeting space

For more information, call us at 488-3234 or drop in to see us

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ May we contact you by phone? \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Do you wish to volunteer? \_\_\_\_\_

Province: \_\_\_\_\_ New member or renewal? \_\_\_\_\_

Membership (✓)

☐ \$25 (individual)

☐ \$ 15 student/low income (individual)

☐ \$40 (couple)

☐ \$ 20 student/low income (couple)

Please mail to: GLCCE, Box 1852, Edmonton, AB T5J 2P2

P.S. Any additional donations you may care to make are also gladly accepted and can be included with this membership form or sent separately.